THE MARYLAND YELLOWTHROAT

Newsletter of the Maryland Ornithological Society

VOL. 15, NO. 5 NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 1995

DNR Reports... by Glenn Therres

Glenn Therres was out of town this month when I needed the column, but we still have exciting news to send along to you. Following is a letter and press release from Richard Leader, Assistant Director of the Chesapeake Bay Trust:

Final figures are in and we have exciting checkoff news. Last year the checkoff set a new all-time record for donations, $1,170,970. That represents a 13 percent increase over the prior year.

We appreciate the continuing support of the Maryland conservation community in helping to make the success of the checkoff possible. By now you should have received our annual report that outlines the hundreds of projects made possible through checkoff funding. Please contact me if you have not received a copy. The Trust is particularly pleased to announce the award of a record 522 grants in FY95.

Thank you. We look forward to continuing to work with you to maintain the checkoff as a national success story.

Checkoff Promotion Highlights — 1995

Comptroller Louis L. Goldstein produced and distributed television and radio public service announcements to stations statewide.

263,850 of our colorful postcards were inserted in metropolitan newspapers.

2,500 Maryland tax preparers received three separate mailings of our postcards.

Montgomery County tax preparers were the target of a special campaign that included direct contact with 157 tax preparers and distribution of promotional material including giant pencils with the checkoff logo.

Tax preparers Coopers & Lybrand; Snyder, Kamerow & Associates; C.W. Amos; and Freidkin, Matone & Horn issued press releases endorsing the checkoff and conducted a special campaign for their clients.

Aggressive pursuit of press support resulted in over 115 newspaper stories, 22 newsletter stories, fifteen radio interviews and three television interviews.

3,000 of our Saw-whet Owl posters were distributed to conservation groups, every

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MARYLAND CHRISTMAS COUNTS AND COMPILERS, 1995-96

Saturday, December 16

Allegany County — Gwen Brewer (Frostburg), 301-689-1150.

Catoctin — Mike Welch (Frederick), 301-874-5828.

Denton — Steve Westre (Denton), 410-479-0338.

Oakland — Connie Skipper (Oakland), 301-387-5227.

Triadelphia Reservoir — Norm Saunders (Colesville), 301-989-9035 (H), or 202-606-5723 (O).

Washington, DC — John Bjerké, compiler. To sign up, call Beth Cranmer at the Audubon Naturalist Society (Chevy Chase), 301-652-5964, ext. 3006.

Sunday, December 17

Jug Bay — Sam Droege, 410-798-6759 (H) & 301-497-5840 (O)

Lower Kent County — Paul Toulson (Chestertown), 410-778-4123.

Port Tobacco — George Wilmot (Bryans Road), 301-375-8552.

St. Michaels — Carolyn Mills (St. Michaels), 410-745-5209.

Seneca — Bill Kulp (Silver Spring), 301-593-4617 and Steve Pretl (Potomac), 301-251-8648.

Tuesday, December 26

Bowie — Fred Fallon (Bowie), 301-249-1518.

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Chapter Chatter

by Jane Hill

Soras by the hundreds — Using capture methods that he and a graduate student developed, Jug Bay Chapter member Greg Kearns, a Patuxent River Park Naturalist, had as of late September banded about 620 Soras and 40 Virginia Rails migrating through Jug Bay marshes this fall. The number of Soras exceeds the total for the entire fall 1994 season, when about 500 Soras (and 545 total rails) were banded. Greg expects this year's total to climb to at least 750 by the end of the banding season, which lasts into November. He attributes this year's higher numbers to improved traps and the addition of more trapping sites, made possible partly through a 1994 grant from the MOS Research Committee. Greg says he anticipates that the total number of Soras banded at Jug Bay for the period 1993 through 1995 will at least equal the 1,400 that had been banded in all of North America before his study began.

Through the banding program, Greg hopes to learn where the Soras come from and where they go; when they arrive, when

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THE MARYLAND YELLOWTHROAT
Newsletter of the Maryland Ornithological Society, Inc.

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If you have a change of address or are experiencing difficulties with MOS mailings, contact the Mailing List Coordinator, William Guion, 8007 Martown Road, Laurel, MD 20723, (301) 490-0444.

All other questions regarding the Maryland Ornithological Society should be referred to the Executive Secretary, Will Tress, 203 Gittings Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21212, (410) 433-1058 or at (800) 823-0050 (410-244-0032 in the Baltimore calling area). Will's e-mail address is:
WTress@ubmail.ubalt.edu.

For information on advertising rates and deadlines, contact the editor.

Copy deadlines for the January/February 1996 issue are:

January-March Calendar Activities:
November 25, 1995

All Other Submissions:
December 1, 1995

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1995-96 Christmas Counts (Cont.)

Wednesday, December 27

Blackwater — Chan Robbins (Laurel), 301-725-1176.

Chincoteague, VA — Teta Kain (Gloucester, VA), 804-693-5246.

Thursday, December 28

Ocean City — Chan Robbins (Laurel), 301-725-1176.

Friday, December 29

Rock Run — Dave Ziolkowski, 410-679-6765.

Crisfield — Charles Vaughn (Salisbury), 410-742-7221.

Saturday, December 30

Baltimore Harbor — Peter Webb (Baltimore), 410-486-1217.

Salisbury — Charles Vaughn (Salisbury), 410-742-7221.

Washington County — David Weesner (Boonsboro), 301-432-7718.

Sunday, December 31

Point Lookout — Anne Bishop, 301-872-5355.

Annapolis/Gibson Island—Sue Ricciardi (Arnold), 410-647-9513, or Hal Wierenga (Arnold), 410-647-7439.

Monday, January 1

Elkton — Joel Citron (Wilmington, DE), 302-475-8773.

Sugarloaf — Gary Nelson (Bethesda), 301-897-8916, or Keith Van Ness (Walkersville), 301-845-4450.

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Chapter Chatter

their numbers peak, and when they leave; how long they stay; which areas of the marsh are critical for them; how long they survive; numbers in the population; mortality; sex ratios and adult to juvenile ratios at different times during the migration season; and their weight and condition.

Harford Gets Bay Grant... — The Harford Chapter received a $500 grant from the Chesapeake Bay Trust, to assist in publishing a brochure on bird watching in Harford County. ...and Begins Regular Publication of Bird Sightings — Debuting in the October 1995 issue of the Harford newsletter "Wrenderings" is a column on bird sightings in the county, by Chapter member Dave Webb. The column resembles "The Season" report that appears in Maryland Birdlife, with information about early and late migrants, unusually high counts, and rarities. It will also include feeder reports and observations about nesting and behavior.

Howard Again Counts Fall Birds — During its second annual fall bird count, held Saturday, September 16, the Howard Chapter turned up 135 species, two more than last year. The total number of birds seen, at approximately 26,000, was about the same as last year, as was participation, at 52 birders. The most interesting species reported include possible Summer Tanager, Least Bittern, and Mourning and Connecticut Warblers.

Baltimore's Home Page — The Baltimore Bird Club now has a home page on Internet's Worldwide Web, thanks to the efforts of Terry Ross. Posted on the home page are the Baltimore Birdline, the Voice of the Naturalist, and the Cape May and Philadelphia birdlines; schedules of club and other MOS events through the end of 1995; and the most recent issue of the club's newsletter, "Chip Notes", and the Harford Chapter's newsletter, "Wrenderings". In addition, the home page provides links to other birding pages, both nationally and internationally. You can follow a link to all the other rare bird alerts from the United States and Canada.

Any other chapter wishing to post its newsletter on Baltimore Bird Club's home page should send it to Terry, either by e-mail, at tross@mail.bcpl.lib.md.us, or, via U.S. mail, at 4128 Roland Ave., Baltimore MD 21211-2034. Terry also welcomes questions and requests for links to other Internet home pages.

Those with an Internet account can reach the Baltimore Bird Club's home page directly, via the club's URL (Uniform Resource Locator), "http://www.bcpl.lib.md.us/~tross/baltbird.html".

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DNR Reports . . .

Maryland library, Maryland businesses, past grant recipients and all state agencies.

Small (one-inch square) "teaser" advertisements ran 24 times over the eight weeks of January and February and the first two weeks of March in 13 papers in Montgomery and Prince George's County. The ad included a graphic of the Trust's blue heron and copy "Check Line 63" and "Help our Wildlife, Back Our Bay."

Promotional material was distributed through the 26 key conservation organizations that have supported the checkoff since its creation.

A slide created from our postcards was featured at the beginning of movies in 24 Anne Arundel movie theaters.

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Chapter Chatter

Those who don't have an account can get to the page free of charge on SAILOR, Maryland's on-line public information network. Set your telecommunications software to vt-100 (terminal emulation), no parity, 8 data bits, 1 stop bit, and full duplex. SAILOR supports modem speeds from 300 to 14,400 baud.

SAILOR is available through most public libraries in Maryland. If you do not have a computer with a modem, you can get onto SAILOR at your local library. If you are equipped with a computer and modem, you can get onto SAILOR directly from home, by having your modem dial the SAILOR number for your local public library system, as follows: Enoch Pratt (410-605-0500); Anne Arundel (410-222-7100); Baltimore (410-494-1199); Carroll (410-848-1230); Cecil (410-392-0909); Frederick (301-620-0055); Harford (410-638-5669); Howard (410-730-0707); Montgomery (301-424-4200); Prince George's (301-925-2400); So. Md. Regional Library Assn.—Charles Co. (301-645-2002); Talbot (410-820-4411); Washington (301-739-7600); Wicomico (410-742-0500).

On SAILOR, follow the login instructions and select "Lynx". From the first menu on SAILOR, select "Other Maryland and Regional Information". Then, at the next menu, select "Culture-Entertainment-Leisure", and from the subsequent menu, select "Baltimore Bird Club". Once at the home page, select any item on the menu that interests you.

The 1996 Annual Conference

by Michele Melia

The 1996 State Conference of the MOS, hosted by the Baltimore Chapter, will be held June 7-9, 1996 at the University of Maryland at Baltimore County. UMBC has a spacious and modern 500-acre campus located in southwestern Baltimore County adjacent to Patapsco Valley State Park, with quick and convenient access to the Baltimore Beltway and Route 95, as well as downtown Baltimore's Inner Harbor for non-birding family members. Some of the planned highlights include featured speaker Pete Dunne, Director of the Cape May Bird Observatory, and a field trip to view Audubon watercolors and other treasures not generally accessible to the public at Johns Hopkins University's Evergreen House. There will also be field trips to favorite Central Maryland hotspots such as Hart-Miller Island for lingering shorebirds, Soldier's Delight, for whip-poor-wills, Phoenix Pond for nesting warblers, the former USF&G Building, for nesting peregrine falcons, and Black Marsh, for rails and chuck-will's-widow. A brochure and registration materials outlining activities, facilities, and costs will be mailed to MOS members in early 1996. In the meantime, be sure to reserve the dates on your calendar. Hope to see everyone there!

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1996 Pin Contest

- Judges consider artistic merit, suitability of the species, and the attractiveness of the resultant pin.
- The jury's decision is final.
- The winner may be asked to make minor changes in the design before it is sent to the manufacturer.
- The manufacturer may have to make minor changes to accommodate the manufacturing process (note the solid background in the 1994 pin).
- Artwork will be returned to the artists, except for the winning design.
- Artists should put the name of the species depicted, as well as their name, address, telephone number, and chapter affiliation, on a separate sheet of paper. They should put only their name on the back of the entry (written small, in one corner). All identification will be covered before judging.
- Call John Malcolm with any questions, at (301) 977-5788.

The 1996 Conference Pin Design Contest

by John Malcolm

The Conference Committee invites you to enter the 1996 Pin Design Contest. The rules are:

- The bird featured must be appropriate for the conference site, Baltimore (i.e., no roadrunners).
- The design shall include the phrases "MOS" and "1996"
- Submissions shall be rendered in color.
- Artists may not use others' work, or copyrighted material.
- Submissions shall not be framed or matted.
- The artist's name should not appear on the front of the entry.
- Artists may submit up to three designs for any one contest.
- Entrants must be members of MOS.
- The deadline for entries is December 31, 1995.
- Entries should be sent to:

  John Malcolm
  10205 Kindly Court
  Montgomery Village, MD 20879-2902

GUIDELINES

- Designs should be clearly depicted, simple, uncluttered, and complete. The pin will be less than two inches; small details and complicated backgrounds don't reduce well. Bold, simple designs are best.
- The manufacturer has a limited color palette; artists should consider birds with "common" colors. (Note the color rendition of the "olive" back of the yellowthroat for 1991.)
- Avoid shading or small patches of color. The pins are cloisonné, and each color change is bordered by a brass line. (The background in the original design for 1994 was shaded from dark green to light green; the pin company could only produce one shade.)
- Submissions should be on sturdy, white, unlined paper or Bristol, in any medium, and at least five inches across (but not larger than 9 X 12 inches).
- The shape of the pin doesn't matter; the manufacturer can produce any shape we want.
- Artists need not depict the entire bird (note the 1988 shrike).
- The contest will be judged by an impartial jury of birders and artists. No entrant can be a judge.

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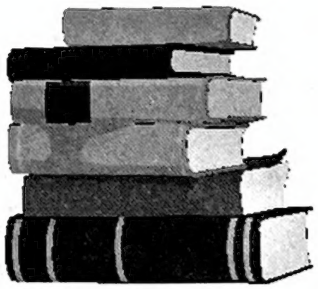
The Guest



Reviewer

Witmer Stone Revisited

by Joy Wheeler

A Review of **The Birds of Cape May**, by David Sibley, New Jersey Audubon Society, 790 Ewing Avenue, Franklin Lakes, NJ 07417. 1993. B&w illustrations by David Sibley, Louise Zemaitis, and Julian Hough. 150 pages, w. index.

Throughout this book of the 1990's the author makes frequent references to "Stone", meaning, as he explains, Witmer Stone, much of whose life from the 1890's to the 1930's was occupied in the study of the birds of Cape May, New Jersey, and who wrote the classic "**Bird Studies at Old Cape May**." It was enough to see Stone's name in this context just once or twice to send me to Cylburn's book collection to leaf through these lovely volumes once again. For the pure pleasure of reading the literature of the birds of Cape May you can't beat Stone. But for the current status of the birds and where they can be found, David Sibley's book, "**The Birds of Cape May**," is the one you want.

Our two volumes of Stone's BSAOCM belonged to one of our long-time members, now deceased, Etta Wedge, who wrote her name in tiny, almost indecipherable script above the frontispiece map: "Etta Wedge, Aug. 21, 1946." It is No. 460 of the 1937 printing of 1,400 and according to my daughter the librarian, it may be the most valuable set of books we have.

Now, let me tell you why David Sibley's book is so valuable. Unlike Stone's hefty volumes, it is a book that you will carry with you each time you visit Cape May for birding. After a foreword by Paul Kerlinger, Director of the Cape May Bird Observatory, and a Table of Contents, you will find the maps, conveniently numbered with a key to locations, of up-front importance, you will agree. The maps correspond with Stone's maps, and it was a study in the recent history of New Jersey to compare their points of interest. The Bird Finder's Guide, next, gives directions to the birding locations, how to get there, where to park, and what birds may be expected. Cautions are given as to ticks and to crowds seeking recreation other than birdwatching (is there any other type of recreation?). Suggestions for particular seasons and weather patterns are offered, what to do on a rainy day, for example. And before Sibley gets into the serious meat of his book, how and where to find each species we've come there to see, he challenges us to use our time at Cape May to help to add to the knowledge of the region's birdlife. He conjectures that even with all the help he can get, knowledge of Cape May's birdlife may never be complete, what with constantly changing conditions. The Species Accounts section is one of the places where Witmer Stone's observations are frequently found, comparing populations then and now, a comment on the impact of habitat changes brought on by the ditching and draining of the salt marshes. To make compiling this book easier and the reading of it, too, many abbreviations and symbols for frequently used phrases and names are used in the text. Of course, the ultimate in abbreviation is found in the Bar Graphs, giving with very little use of words the 1985-1992 "seasonal abundance patterns of each species for the entire county (excluding offshore waters)."

David Sibley's name and reputation as a birder are authoritative enough for the reader to feel confident of the information used to update his earlier publication of 12 years ago. His list of references and acknowledgments back this up. Sibley's black and white line drawings of some of Cape May's birds, along with those of Louise Zemaitis and Julian Hough, add welcome diversity to the information-laden pages.

Ed. note: Joy Wheeler is the MOS Librarian, a long-time member of the Baltimore Chapter, and author of many of the book reviews which have appeared in MD Birdlife over the years.

Mini-Lecture: Pesticides & Wildlife

by Joseph M. Lewandowski

It may be safe to say that all naturalists know how toxic substances accumulate in wildlife by their incorporation into the body tissue through the food chain. We also know that these same substances can have an effect on the thickness of egg shells in birds, thus affecting the reproductive success of bird species. A lesser known fact is that animals that use their tongue to preen themselves can ingest toxic substances that may have clung to their hair, fur, or feathers.

Researchers at the university of California at Davis, led by avian biologist Barry W. Wilson, have discovered that some bird species can accumulate toxic substances through their feet. Studies involving pigeons, American kestrels, and red-tailed hawks have shown that these birds can pick up organophosphate pesticides through their feet by perching in trees sprayed with the pesticide. Their studies have shown that it takes longer for the birds to recover from a dose received through the feet than through an oral dose and that the more pesticide that is applied to the perch, the greater the exposure. While researchers have indicated that no birds have died in their study, Barry Wilson did indicate that organophosphate pesticides do inhibit blood cholinesterase levels in animals and such inhibitions can lead to muscle weakness, salivation, convulsions, and death in animals.

The UC Davis researchers are studying this issue due to the practice of spraying orchards with pesticides to control insect pests. However, one must wonder what effect lawn chemicals may have on the bird species that visit our neighborhoods. Are the bird species able to detoxify the chemical substances they take in or are we simply witnesses to the slow demise of our feathered friends?

Minutes of the MOS State Board Meeting
June 3, 1995
by Joy Aso, Acting Secretary

President Al Haury called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m. He thanked the Jug Bay Chapter for arranging the meeting at the Watkins Regional Park Nature Center and for the refreshments.

The minutes from the previous meeting were approved as corrected. The correction is on page 2 and is in regard to the mailing list; it should read "...using the barcode would save $215."

REPORTS

President: President Al Haury reminded everyone that the committee and chapter president reports are due at the annual meeting.

Vice-President Bob Rineer will preside at the annual meeting because Al will not be able to attend. There will not be a board meeting after the annual meeting. Al requested volunteers to host the board meetings for the coming year.

Jane Hill requests each chapter to add her name to their mailing lists so she may receive their newsletters; Jane writes the Club Notes for the Yellowthroat.

Al reported the death of Larry Zeleny; the funeral was last Tuesday. Conservation Chair Rich Dolesh acknowledged Mr. Zeleny's many contributions to the organization and to birding.

The owner of a collection of very old bird books would like to donate the books to someone or someplace that would preserve them. Suggested homes for the books included Pratt Library, silent auction at the conference, Towson State (Mark Johnson) is beginning a program on ornithology, and Joy Wheeler (Chair of the Library Committee).

The M.O.S. has received a bequest of $1,000 from Marion Teal (Ft. Collins, CO) a former member of the Montgomery County Chapter.

Treasurer: Treasurer Larry Fry distributed the annual report; Rodney Jones (Chair, Audit Committee) has not audited the report yet. Larry reported that during the last year expenditures exceeded income. As a result, Larry recommended that the M.O.S. reevaluate its financial commitments.

Larry reminded everyone to send the bills to him for payment until August 1st; after August 1st, the bills should be sent to the new treasurer.

Executive Secretary: Secretary Will Tress reported that the supply of checklist is depleted; he expects to have a new supply soon. Will requested and received the Board's ap proval to sell the checklists in quantities of less than 100.

Budget Committee: No report.

Conference Committee: Al Haury thanked John Malcolm for creating the conference booklet and for making it available to the conference committees. Al reported, on behalf of Bob Rineer, that the 1996 Conference will be in Ocean City and Bob has received a proposal from the Princess Royal Hotel in Ocean City; it looks promising. Both Al and Bob would like to review the proposal more closely and talk to the hotel before presenting the proposal to the Board.

Conservation Committee: Chair Rich Dolesh reported that the conservation news at both the federal and state levels is not good. He foresees that the federal, state, and local governments will play a much diminished role in conservation.

The Clean Water Act is up for reauthorization. The marked up version significantly reduces wetland protection, and there is no federal protection for nontidal wetlands.

The Endangered Species Act is also up for reauthorization. This Act is itself in danger. Rich emphasized the need for active participation in getting the Act reauthorized by emphasizing the national value of all species.

At the state level, the standings bill is in jeopardy. In fact, there is not much hope that it will pass.

The State of Maryland is establishing a working group to reassess the management of wildlife management areas (WMA).

Rich asked for comments on the International Migratory Bird Day. It appears to have been successful but it needs more publicity, posssibility by the chapters. One serious problem was that the event occurred during hunting season and there were no signs, announcement, or publicity for the International Bird Day. Al Haury announced that International Migratory Bird Day posters will be available after the meeting.

Rich also asked about the Watchable Wildlife Weekend. It is an attempt to determine how much of the local economy depends on wildlife watching. Rich requested comments on the Weekend.

In a recent trip to Brazil, Rich discovered that the State of Rio (a sister state of Maryland) is attempting to put together a conservation study for the hooded ant wren. The ant wren was thought to be extinct until about 1987 when it was "rediscovered." Rich requested the M.O.S.'s support for the State of Rio and its conservation efforts. Discussion followed on the best way to financially support them without jeopardizing the M.O.S.'s contributions to the FUNDAECO. A motion was made that the Board authorize splitting the silent auction/raffle money, 75% and 25%, for the FUNDAECO and the State of Rio, respectively. The motion was seconded and passed.

In order to obtain additional funds and to encourage contributions from individual members, it was suggested that Rich:

- make a presentation at the conference,
- have a sign or poster at the conference with the details, and
- prepare a "flyer" for distribution to the chapters.

Education: Chair Linda Bystrak distributed a list of the grants funded by the Education Committee. The $200 for the Baltimore Chapter was for an eagle donated by the Baltimore Zoo.

The Cornell slides are for Gary Gifford; he will make presentations to the chapters.

The Maryland Envirothon is a team competition for high school students interested in natural history. The national competition will be in Idaho, but the Maryland Envirothon needs $1,000 to send its students. The Education Committee will donate $200 to the Envirothon towards the cost of the trip. Discussion followed on the Envirothon's request for access to the M.O.S. bird collection for the competitions at the state and county level. Several years ago, Libby Wood donated a collection of skins to the M.O.S.; the collection was given to Keith Van Ness, then Chair of the Education Committee. Efforts will be made to contact Keith and obtain the skins. If successful, the skins will be given to Linda for the competition. However, the skins should be checked carefully for arsenic before they are used.

Twenty four Videos were purchased one for each school district in the state of Maryland; however, more videos are needed for the larger school districts.

The Education Committee provided start-up funds for the raptor program of the Wildfowl Trust of North America. The raptor program is similar to the scales and tails program of the Maryland Department of Natural Resources. The funds were for brochures and for cages to transport the birds.

The Partners in Flight, Partners in Art is an art exchange program. The art works will be displayed at the conference then at the Patuxent Visitors Center.

The "Gone Birding" video and game which was purchased for the speaker's bureau will be on display at the conference.

The Friends of Patuxent Center requested M.O.S. participation in an honorarium for Chandler Robbins to celebrate his 50 years with the Patuxent Fish and Wildlife Center. The details of the M.O.S.'s contributions will be worked out with the Center. In addition, the M.O.S. plans to recognize Chan for his many contributions to the M.O.S.

Gary Gifford (Cecil County) will be assuming the responsibility of the Speaker's Bureau.

The subject of an M.O.S. display was discussed. The current display is very heavy

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June Board Meeting Minutes *(Continued from previous page)*

and cumbersome. A light and portable display would be preferable. Al Haury will create a committee to investigate the alternatives.

Long Range Planning: No report.

Research: Al Haury reported that the deadlines for grant applications from the Chesapeake Trust are July 21, 1995, for grants less than $1,000; and September 22, 1995, for grants over $1,000.

Sanctuary: Chair Dotty Mumford reported on two workdays in April. One was at Irish Grove to complete the trail across the marsh and to construct a cover for the fireplace in the house. The second work day was at Carey Run; the steps to the front porch and the porch's foundation were rebuilt.

Dotty also reported on the bequest from John Wanuga of the Talbot Chapter. The bequest will be given to the Wildfowl Trust of North America to purchase 190 acres of waterfront property. On the property, there will be a memorial plaque for John Wanuga. In addition, the M.O.S. will have access to the meeting rooms and bird trails. A motion was made to accept the proposal; it was seconded. Discussion followed on the increase of the purchasing price of the land. The Board felt that whatever the cost of the land, the M.O.S. is only committed to the amount of the Wanuga bequest. Motion passed.

Scholarship: Chair Isa Sieracki reported that nine scholarships were awarded this year. One of the winners, Robert Dyke, works at Watkins Regional Park. Mr. Dyke was present and expressed his appreciation for the scholarship and for the M.O.S.'s work.

Discussion followed on the availability of scholarships for children. Under the current program, the scholarships are specifically for persons working in the field. It was felt that a scholarship awarded to someone working in the field would affect more persons than awarding a scholarship to one child. It was then suggested that the M.O.S. create a separate scholarship for children, for example, a scholarship to send the winners of the state envirothron to the national competition.

Atlas: Chair John Malcolm reported that all species accounts and all maps (including the redrawn maps) have been sent to Pittsburgh Press. He is waiting on the indexing. The current delays are because Pittsburgh Press has lost staff.

May Count: Coordinator LeAnne Pemburn reported that it was a good May Count. Accounts are due July 1st.

Mailing Lists: Coordinator Bill Guion confirmed that the barcode is not worth pursuing.

Nominations: Al Haury reported that the Nominations Committee has a candidate for Treasurer, Jeff Metter.

Publications: Al Haury stated that the March issue of Maryland Birdlife is at the printer. The June issue will be going to the printers soon; it may be available at the annual meeting.

Chandler Robbins (Chair, Publications Committee) and Al met to discuss the publication schedule for Maryland Birdlife. Al requested volunteers in three areas:

1. Production - to assist Chan with the production of Birdlife. This person will also assist Chan in editing Birdlife.
2. "Bugger" - to frequently remind people of the deadline dates for submitting their articles.
3. Review technical reports - Bob Ringler reviews the season reports; someone is needed to review other articles.

Al suggested, for consideration, two additional features for Maryland Birdlife. The first is an article containing a summary report of the Maryland Christmas Counts. The second article would be on a bird accepted by the Records Committee; this article would be written by the person who sighted the bird.

Yellowthroat: Editor Norm Saunders reported on an unsolicited proposal from the Croatoan Publishing Company. The company requested that they be considered for printing the Yellowthroat. After discussions with the Croatoan Publishing Company and comparison of costs, Norm stated that it appears that under Croatoan the printing costs would increase about $2,000 - $3,000 per year. As a result, Tri-State Printing (current printer for the Yellowthroat and Maryland Birdlife) will remain the printer for the Yellowthroat.

Norm followed up on his proposal at an earlier board meeting about creating a membership list. He proposed that each chapter ask their members if they objected to publishing their address and telephone number in a directory. The directory would be made available to each member of the M.O.S. for a nominal fee (about $4.00). The first directory will be available in the spring of 1996 after members have had a chance to decide if they wish to be included in the directory and after the membership list undergoes its annual purge.

Norm suggested printing 1,000 copies at a cost of about $2,300. One free copy will be provided to each member of the State M.O.S. Board (about 77 copies); this includes the Executive Council, Committee Chairs, Chapter Presidents, and Chapter Directors. The remainder would be sold to members. To offset the cost of printing the directory, the M.O.S. would need to sell about 600 at $4.00 each, or about 800 copies at $3.00 each. The risk is that the M.O.S. does not sell any of the directories; if this results, the M.O.S. would lose $2,300 in printing cost. Norm proposed revising the directory about every three years.

Discussion followed. A motion was made and seconded that the chapters include on their membership form a check box for members to mark if they do **not** want to be in the membership directory. The motion was carried.

Norm will prepare a letter for each chapter and send it to the Executive Secretary for distribution to the chapters.

OLD BUSINESS

Environmental Fund of Maryland: Al Haury introduced Jay Jones, his Assistant Director for the Environmental Fund of Maryland (EFM). Jay will be assuming the role of Director and Al will become the Assistant Director. Jay provided some background on the EFM; the EFM is an affiliation of 20 local environmental groups that pool their resources to augment contributions.

In the fall of 1994, $180,000 was **pledged** to the EFM. The first allocation was $3,624. Of this amount, the M.O.S. received $774.34; these funds were designated specifically to the M.O.S. or designated from the general funds.

Jay is currently trying to find companies in the private sector that will allow their employees to contribute to the EMF through payroll deductions. To this end, Jay would like to visit each chapter and discuss the EFM.

Conference: John Malcolm reminded everyone to contact Bob Johnsson or him if they plan to have a display at the conference so they can make arrangements for space. John announced that special M.O.S. anniversary patches are available for $3.00 each.

Pins and Certificates: John Malcolm announced that he has award pins and certificates and membership pins.

NEW BUSINESS

Fall Bird Count: In response to a question about a fall bird count, the M.O.S. does not have a coordinator.

Challenge Grant for the FUNDAECO: Challenge grants for the FUNDAECO are usually at the Chapter level. Several years ago an M.O.S. member offered a challenge grant for rain forest, but the challenge is no longer offered.

Montgomery County Bird List: Copies will be available at the conference.

Rare Bird Atlas: Garrett County needs help with its rare bird atlas.

Partners-in-Flight: The Birdathon raised $580.

Research: There was discussion on amending the by-laws to allow grants for research outside of Maryland. It was suggested that a proposal be prepared and presented at the next Research Committee meeting for discussion. The Committee plans to meet at the conference.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Sanctuary News
by Dotty Mumford

Two people who have done years of outstanding work for the MOS Sanctuaries passed away recently. We lost Dan Folk in July and Gladys Cole in September. I would like to dedicate the remainder of this column to a remembrance of them and the work they did so uncomplainingly for the MOS Sanctuaries.

Gladys Cole began her sanctuary activities by being a member of the first Sanctuary Committee in 1960. She was one of the leading volunteers working at our first MOS Sanctuary, Rocky Run (now gone). She was a "Jill-of-all-trades," helping to clean, repair, and furnish the house as well as helping to set up the tracts for bird studies and banding the first birds there. She served on the committee for nearly twenty years and was Chairman for several years.

For many years, Gladys also hosted *Maryland Birdlife* "parties." Chan and his helpers would meet at Gladys' house for a session of assembling, collating, and typing copy for the next issue of *Maryland Birdlife*. The food she served was the highlight of these get-togethers.

Gladys was dedicated to banding birds. She oversaw the operation of the banding station in Ocean City which was in operation from 1955 to 1968. When it closed down she transferred her banding activities to the newly acquired Irish Grove Sanctuary. Every year Gladys would be busy running her nets at Irish Grove. When banding was in operation, Gladys lived at the sanctuary house and made friends with many of the people who live in the Marion area.

Many many people of all ages helped Gladys at her banding stations. She particularly encouraged young people—college and high school students helped in the banding and classes from local schools visited her banding stations often, including one in her Towson backyard. Many MOS birders owe the genesis of their birding skills to Gladys Cole.

Dan Folk was "Mr. Carey Run." He and his wife Charlotte started doing volunteer work at Carey Run Sanctuary when it was first purchased in 1963. In the early 1970's, they became the local chairmen. Between them, they took care of the reservations and maintenance of Carey Run.

Every visitor to Carey Run met Dan when he would come out to make sure that everything was okay. He loved telling everyone about the history of Carey Run and about his beekeeping (he kept hives at the sanctuary for a number of years). He was also active in the Boy Scouts as a Scoutmaster and he involved the local scout troops in many projects at Carey Run. He actively encouraged Frostburg State University to have students use the sanctuary as a site for their research projects, as well.

On workdays, Dan would greet all the volunteers and assign them to a work group. His cheerful enthusiasm and obvious love of Carey Run were an inspiration to all who came out for the work sessions and these sessions just won't seem the same any more without Dan.

Charlotte Folk will continue as the local chairman and will continue to take reservations for the use of Carey Run. We extend to here our deepest sympathy and our continued thanks for her contributions here.

MOS Scholarships for Training in Ecology and Ornithology
by Isa Sieracki

Ecology Scholarships: The Maryland Ornithological Society is now accepting applications from Maryland teachers and youth leaders for six scholarships to summer ecology workshops which the National Audubon Society holds at its camps in Maine, Connecticut, and Wyoming. Each grant covers the cost of tuition, room, and board for an intensive six-day course of field study and instruction in ecology, conservation, and natural history.

Ornithology Scholarship: The MOS is also accepting applications from Maryland teachers and youth leaders for one or two scholarship for a week of study in ornithology at the Audubon summer workshop in Maine.

Requirements: The MOS requires that its scholarship recipients work with young people. This includes teachers, camp counselors, park rangers, students, and others who intend to make nature education a part of their careers. Applicants need not be members of MOS, but must be endorsed by a chapter or a member of MOS. Each candidate must provide a written statement showing how the Audubon experience will be used to develop in young people an appreciation of our wild heritage and a sense of responsibility for the care and quality of our natural resources and environment. Additionally, two or more letters from individuals who know of the candidate's interests and activities are requested. Applicants must be eighteen or older.

The following people are helping the Scholarship Committee to recruit candidates in their respective areas:

Annette Drummond (410) 252-7197	Baltimore
Eileen Clegg	Howard
Janet Cree	Talbot
James Falcon (410) 641-6668	Wicomico

Applications for the 1996 season are due by January 31, 1996 to Isa Sieracki, Chairperson of the MOS Scholarship Committee, 792 Everist Drive, Aberdeen, MD 21001, (410) 273-6201. We urge all MOS members to see that this information is disseminated as widely as possible to all educators in the state—we need a broader base of applicants to ensure good coverage over all of Maryland's counties!

C & O CANAL NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK
1995 BREEDING BIRD SURVEY
PRELIMINARY RESULTS

by Fran Saunders

Last June 3, the C & O Canal National Historical Park conducted a breeding bird count. The data collected is now available in preliminary form, hot off the presses of the U.S. Department of the Interior thanks to Dianne Ingram. We are promised more in the days ahead, but ***Yellowthroat*** readers may enjoy an advance look at the results of this count.

There were 74 participants. All in all, data was collected from 552 of 554 possible point counts, all submitted by volunteer birders. Point counts were 5 minutes every 1/3 mile along an assigned 3 mile route on the towpath. At each flagged point, all birds seen or heard during the 5-minute period were recorded.

A total of 106 breeding bird species were recorded for the entire Park and are listed at the end of this article. Of these, 19 were warbler species.

The top 10 species recorded in the most sectors were Northern Cardinal, American Crow, Tufted Titmouse, Red-eyed Vireo, Acadian Flycatcher, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Eastern Wood-pewee, Common Grackle, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher and Indigo Bunting.

The top 10 species by number of individuals recorded over the entire Canal length included Common Grackle, American Crow, Northern Cardinal, Tufted Titmouse, Red-eyed Vireo, Acadian Flycatcher, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Red-bellied Woodpecker, European Starling and Indigo Bunting. The sharp-eyed among us will immediately discern that the Eastern Wood-pewee is the odd species on the first list, whereas European Starling is the odd addition to the second. The other nine species in each group are identical.

A special effort was made to keep track of Partners in Flight species. A total of 49 List A species were counted, representing 64% of List A species occurring in Maryland. For List B, 20 species were counted, representing 61% of those in Maryland.

For those interested, according to the Maryland Partners in Flight International Migratory Bird Day handout for 1995, List A includes 143 species of birds generally recognized as neotropical migrant landbirds, those species breeding in North America and wintering in Central or South America. Of these 143, 87 occur in Maryland and 77 breed in Maryland.

List B includes 72 species that breed and winter in North America, but have some populations that winter in the neotropics. Of these 72, 39 occur in Maryland, 33 nest in Maryland, and 6 are present during migration and/or the winter season.

This "fledgling" data will go into the Park's wildlife observation database. Dianne Ingram, who is working on the project, will be producing species distribution maps, an updated Park bird list handout, and possibly technical or informational papers. If you would like more information contact Diane at (301) 842-3279.

MOS 1995 MD/DC LOCALITY LIST REPORTING FORM

I. PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name:	
Address:	
City:	County:
State:	Zip:
Phones: (day): ( )	(evening): ( )

II. STATE/COUNTY LIFE AND 1995 LISTS

Locality List	Max/50%	Life	1995	Locality List	Max/50%	Life	1995
Maryland State	393/196			District of Columbia	309/154		
MD Yard List*	-			DC Yard List*	-		
Allegany County	280/140			Howard County	285/142		
Anne Arundel County	329/164			Kent County	293/146		
Baltimore City/County	332/166			Montgomery County	317/158		
Calvert County	298/149			Prince George's County	306/153		
Caroline County	277/138			Queen Anne's County	291/145		
Carroll County	275/137			St. Mary's County	297/148		
Cecil County	274/137			Somerset County	302/151		
Charles County	270/135			Talbot County	305/152		
Dorchester County	312/156			Washington County	257/128		
Frederick County	283/141			Wicomico County	272/136		
Garrett County	265/132			Worcester County	362/181		
Harford County	287/143			All-County List	214/---		

* **Yard List Information**:

County: _____

Location: Home: _____ Work: _____ Other? (specify): _____

Brief Description: (size, habitat, etc):

III. ANNUAL ALL-TIME HIGH LISTS (for previous years)

Locality List	Year	#	Locality List	Year	#

(Attach Additional Sheets If Needed)

1995 MARYLAND/DC LOCALITY LIST COMPILATION

Each year, the MOS compiles and publishes totals from member's state and local bird lists. Forms for submitting 1995 locality lists are provided in this issue of the ***Maryland Yellowthroat***. You are invited to submit your totals for any of the following list categories:

STATE/COUNTY CUMULATIVE LISTS: This category is for your "lifetime" species totals identified anywhere in the state of Maryland, DC, or within any of the 23 Maryland counties. You may submit totals for any of these localities. Due to space limitations, please only submit totals which exceed 50% of the "maximum" number for each locality. The form contains the latest maximums and the 50% threshold for each locality.

STATE/COUNTY 1995 ANNUAL LISTS: This category is for total species identified only in 1995 for the same localities as above. These totals may be reported at any threshold.

"YARD" LIST: This category is for cumulative yard list totals, and 1995 totals. You may count any species you have identified while in your "yard" (that is, the property contiguous to the site of your home). "Flyovers" and other birds identified <u>from</u> your yard (even if they were not <u>in</u> your yard) also count. Additional information is requested on your "yard".

"ALL-COUNTY" LIST: This category is for counting the number of species you have identified in each of the 23 Maryland counties. For example, if you have identified a Northern Mockingbird, an American Crow, a Downy Woodpecker and a Red-tailed Hawk in each of the 23 Maryland counties, your list total would be "4".

"ALL-TIME HIGH" ANNUAL LISTS: This category is used to track all-time high annual lists from the current and previous years. Annual prior year totals for the various reporting localities may be submitted. For Maryland, submitted totals should equal or exceed 271 (70% of the "maximum possible" number). For individual counties, totals submitted from previous years should exceed either 50% of the "maximum possible" or exceed one of the top totals previously published for that county. See the March/April 1995 issue of the ***Maryland Yellowthroat*** for previously published totals.

This year, the "maximum possible" numbers have been taken from the preliminary version of the new **Field List of the Birds of Maryland** (the "yellow book") which is currently in preparation. In some counties, the numbers vary noticeably from those previously published.

We remind those who submitted prior year list totals that it is important to update their totals. Space may not permit publication of lists that are not reasonably current.

Questions ??? Call: Phil Davis (301) 261-0184.

Please return the form <u>BEFORE</u> January 20, 1996 to: Phil Davis
2549 Vale Court
Davidsonville, MD 21035

We hope that all who have participated will do so again, and that others will join in, especially those from localities which are currently less than well represented. If you have any comments, thoughts or anecdotes, please include them. Specifics on your yard habitat and size will also be of interest if your yard list total is especially high. If you have any other categories of Maryland bird lists that are appropriate (for example, all-time or 1995 state/county "Big Day" totals), send them in. We'd like to hear from you.

C & O CANAL NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK
1995 BREEDING BIRD SURVEY
PRELIMINARY RESULTS
(Continued)

Species List

Double-crested Cormorant
Mallard
Wood Duck
Canada Goose
Great Blue Heron
Green Heron
Black-crowned Night Heron
Yellow-crowned Night Heron
Killdeer**
Northern Bobwhite
Wild Turkey
Rock Dove
Mourning Dove**
Turkey Vulture**
Black Vulture
Red-tailed Hawk**
Red-shouldered Hawk
American Kestrel**
Barred Owl
Eastern Screech Owl
Great Horned Owl
Yellow-billed Cuckoo*
Black-billed Cuckoo*
Belted Kingfisher**
Hairy Woodpecker
Downy Woodpecker
Pileated Woodpecker
Red-bellied Woodpecker
Northern Flicker**
Chimney Swift*
Ruby-throated Hummingbird*
Eastern Kingbird*
Great-crested Flycatcher*
Eastern Phoebe**
Eastern Wood-peewee*
Eastern Bluebird**
Acadian Flycatcher*
Willow Flycatcher*
Blue Jay
Common Raven
American Crow
Fish Crow
European Starling
Brown-headed Cowbird**
Red-winged Blackbird**
Eastern Meadowlark**
Orchard Oriole*
Northern Oriole*
Common Grackle
House Finch
American Goldfinch**
Grasshopper Sparrow*
Chipping Sparrow*
Field Sparrow
Song Sparrow
Rufous-sided Towhee**
Northern Cardinal
Rose-breasted Grosbeak*
Indigo Bunting*
Scarlet Tanager*
Summer Tanager*
Purple Martin*
Barn Swallow*
Tree Swallow**
Bank Swallow*
N. Rough-winged Swallow*
Cedar Waxwing**
Red-eyed Vireo*
Warbling Vireo*
Yellow-throated Vireo*
Solitary Vireo*
White-eyed Vireo*
Prothonotary Warbler*
Worm-eating Warbler*
Blue-winged Warbler*
Northern Parula*
Yellow Warbler*
Black-throated Blue Warbler*
Cerulean Warbler*
Chestnut-sided Warbler*
Yellow-throated Warbler*
Black-thrted Green Warbler*
Pine Warbler
Prairie Warbler*
Ovenbird*
Louisiana Waterthrush*
Kentucky Warbler*
Common Yellowthroat*
Yellow-breasted Chat*
Hooded Warbler*
American Redstart*
House Sparrow
Northern Mockingbird**
Gray Catbird*
Brown Thrasher
Carolina Wren
House Wren*
Brown Creeper**
White-breasted Nuthatch
Tufted Titmouse
Black-capped Chickadee
Carolina Chickadee
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher*
Wood Thrush*
Veery*
American Robin**

* List A species **List B species

Many thanks to Dianne Ingram for providing this early look at the data collected.

MOS Calendar
November 1995 - January 1996

Friday, November 3

MEETING. Anne Arundel. "Birds of the Aleutian Islands" by Daphne Gemmil. 8:00 p.m. at The Media Center, Annapolis Senior High School, 2700 Riva Road, Annapolis.

DINNER MEETING. Harford "Maryland in Living Color", a collection of photographs and stories of the fauna in Maryland by Robert Rinker. 6:15 p.m. at Churchville Presbyterian Church, MD 22 & MD 136. For further information, call 410-692-5978.

Saturday, November 4

FIELD TRIP. Allegany. Field trip to local ponds. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at Parkside School. Bring a scope if you have one. For further information, contact Gwen Brewer at 301-689-1150.

FIELD TRIP. Carroll. Hawk Watching at Town Hill, MD. Bring a lunch and enjoy the migration of Golden Eagle, Northern Harrier and Goshawks in Allegany County. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the Mt. Airy Park & Ride at MD 27 and I-70. For further information, contact Bob Ringler at 410-549-6031.

FIELD TRIP. Harford. National Wildlife Visitor Center. 3/4-day trip in Laurel led by Jean and Larry Fry (410-452-8539). Begins with birdwalk, and finishes with self-guided tour of the new visitors center. Meet at 8:30 a.m. at the Park & Ride at I-95 and MD 152. Bring lunch.

FIELD TRIP. Kent. Merkle Wildlife Sanctuary. For further information, call Peggy Blair at 410-778-4133.

FIELD TRIP. Montgomery. Roosevelt Island. Explore upland forest, marsh and swamp habitats. 1/2 day. Meet at 7:30 a.m. in the parking lot near the bridge. For further information, contact the leader, Bill Young at 703-522-7921.

Sunday, November 5

FIELD TRIP. Anne Arundel. Smithsonian Environmental Research Center, Anne Arundel County. Woodland birds and waterfowl in a beautiful setting on the Rhode River. Half day. Meet 8:00 a.m. at the Parole Plaza parking lot, on the Riva Road side next to the cemetery. For further information, contact the leader, Wafi Rains, at 410-573-0352.

FIELD TRIP. Howard. Centennial Park Sunday Walk. Co-Sponsored with Howard County Rec and Parks. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the west end lot to walk around the lake. Many different birds - ducks, gulls and woodland species. For further information, contact Bonnie Ott at 410-461-3361.

FIELD TRIP. Talbot. Sunday morning walk led by Jan Reese. Meet at 7:00 a.m. at Higgins & Spencer Furniture Co. on Talbot St. in St. Michaels. For further information, contact Liz Lawlor at 410-745-6390 or Fred Snyder at 410-745-5563.

Tuesday, November 7

MEETING. Baltimore. "Hawks" by Bob Rineer. 7:30 p.m. at Cylburn Mansion.

Wednesday, November 8

MEETING. Carroll. "A Short Course in Identification Leading to a Certificate in Gull-ability" by Jim Stasz. 7:30 p.m. at Carroll Community College. For further information, contact Dave Hudgins at 410-374-5764.

Thursday, November 9

MEETING. Howard. "Migration and Breeding of Birds from the Neotropics" by Peter Stangel of the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation. 8:00 p.m. at Longfellow Elementary School, Columbia. For further information, contact Dave Harvey at 410-795-3117.

MEETING. Talbot. "Protection of Natural Areas in Brazil" by Richard Dolesh. Meet at 7:30 p.m. at the Loyola Federal Bank in Easton.

Saturday, November 11

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Piney Run Park. Walk the hilly trails around the lake edges for waterfowl and winter land birds. Telescopes recommended. Meet 8:00 a.m. at entrance gate. For further information, contact the leader, Burton Alexander, at 410-381-5574.

FIELD TRIP. Harford. Waterfowl Tour. Leaders John Wortman, 410-939-3146, and Bill McIntosh will point out the many species of waterfowl that can be found along Harford's shorelines. Meet at the Lapidum boat launch at 7:15 a.m., located in Susquehanna State Park at the south end of Stafford Road at the end of Lapidum Road.

FIELD TRIP. Howard. Piney Run (Carroll county). Meet at the Rt. 108 and Rt. 29 Park & Ride at 7:00 a.m. Wide variety of waterfowl possible. For further information, contact the leader, Burton Alexander, at 410-381-5574.

FIELD TRIP. Washington. C&O Canal. Meet at 9:00 a.m. at the Park & Ride located at I-70 and MD 65 near the MVA. For further information, contact the leader, Bob Keedy, at 301-733-7708.

Sunday, November 12

FIELD TRIP. Carroll. Sparrows at Hashawha. Bill Kulp will lead this walk around Camp Hashawha (moderate terrain). Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the Bear Branch Nature Center parking lot off John Owings Road. For more information, contact Bill at 410-775-2264.

FIELD TRIP. Howard. Centennial Park Sunday Walk. Co-Sponsored with Howard County Rec and Parks. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the west end lot to walk around the lake. Many different birds - ducks, gulls and woodland species. For further information, contact Bonnie Ott at 410-461-3361.

FIELD TRIP. Montgomery. Black Hill Regional Park. Waterfowl, field birds, possible Red-headed Woodpeckers. 1/2 day. Meet at the visitor center at 8:00 a.m. Bring scope and snack. For further information, contact the leader, Howard Elitzak at 703-528-3848.

FIELD TRIP. Talbot. Sunday morning walk to Blackwater Refuge led by Levin Willey. Meet at 7:00 a.m. at Higgins & Spencer Furniture Co. on Talbot St. in St. Michaels. For further information, contact Liz Lawlor at 410-745-6390 or Fred Snyder at 410-745-5563.

Monday, November 13

FIELD TRIP. Howard. Weekday walk at Wilde Lake. Meet at 9:00 a.m. at the boat dock to walk along lake and check woods for waterfowl and possible winter wren. For further information, contact Bonnie Ott at 410-461-3361.

Tuesday, November 14

MEETING. Kent. "Migration Patterns and Identification of Fall Hawks" by Rick Blom. 7:30 p.m. at the Kent County Library in Chestertown. For further information, contact Clara Ann Simmons at 410-778-2483.

Wednesday, November 15

MEETING. Allegany. "Australian Wildlife" by Dan Evans, Appalachian Environmental Lab, Frostburg. 7:00 p.m. at the Board of Education Building, 108 Washington St., Cumberland. For further information, contact Gwen Brewer at 301-689-1150.

FIELD TRIP. Montgomery. Hughes Hollow. Sparrows, early waterfowl, possible raptors. Meet at the parking lot at 8:30 a.m. For further information, contact the leader, Mike Bowen at 301-530-5764.

Thursday, November 16

MEETING. Caroline. Program TBA. Meet at 7:30 p.m. at Choptank Electric Cooperative, Inc. Meeting Room, 24B20, Meeting House Road (Business Rt. 404), Denton, MD.

MEETING. Jug Bay. "Audubon Camps". Mike Mennett tells of the Connecticut camp and Rob Dykes tells of the Maine camp. 7:00 p.m. at the two story house at Patuxent River Park. For further information, call 301-627-6074.

FIELD TRIP. Montgomery. Blackwater NWR. Geese, swans, eagles, Brown-headed Nuthatches. All day. Meet at 9:00 a.m. at the visitor center parking lot. Bring lunch and scope. For further information, contact the leader, Willem Maane at 301-229-1628.

MEETING. Montgomery. "The Eskimo Curlew in the Lesser Antilles" by Craig Faanes. 8:00 p.m. at the Potomac Presbyterian Church, 10301 River Road, Potomac, MD. For further information, contact Lou DeMouy at 301-656-3146.

Friday, November 17

MEETING. Allegany. Annual Bird Club Dinner. "Natural History of Belize" by Dr. Don Messersmith. Make reservations by Nov 10. 6:00 p.m. at the Holiday Inn, Cumberland. For further information and reservations, contact Gwen Brewer at 301-689-1150.

Saturday, November 18

FIELD TRIP. Anne Arundel. Blackwater NWR, Dorchester County. This trip leaves at noon to catch the beauty of Blackwater in the late afternoon. Ducks, Canada and Snow Geese and Bald Eagles beckon. Meet 12 noon at Busch's Chesapeake Inn parking lot on the south side of Rt. 50 about 3 miles west of the Bay Bridge on Busch's Frontage Road. For further information, contact the leader, Barbara Ricciardi, at 301-464-1962.

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Blackwater NWR. All-day trip to see ducks, thousands of Canada and Snow Geese, and possible Bald Eagle or Brown-headed Nuthatch. Meet at the refuge Visitors Center. Birding mostly from cars, one short level walk. Telescopes useful. Bring Lunch. Meet 9:30 a.m. at visitor center. For further information, contact the leader, Taylor McLean, at 410-377-7622.

FIELD TRIP. Carroll. Fall Waterfowl at Piney Run Park. Jerry & Laura Tarbell will lead this walk through moderate terrain. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the entrance to Piney Run (Martz Road). For more information, contact the Tarbells at 410-857-1109.

FIELD TRIP. Harford. Lower Susquehanna River. 3/4-day trip with stops at Conowingo Dam, Holtwood Dam, and Muddy Run. Leaders are Joe Vangrin, 410-838-5264, and June Vaughn. Bring lunch. Meet at 7:00 a.m. at Fisherman's Park, at the base of Conowingo Dam.

Sunday, November 19

FIELD TRIP. Howard. Centennial Park Sunday Walk. Co-Sponsored with Howard County Rec and Parks. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the west end lot to walk around the lake. Many different birds - ducks, gulls and woodland species. For further information, contact Bonnie Ott at 410-461-3361.

FIELD TRIP. Talbot. Sunday morning walk led by Jan Reese. Meet at 7:00 a.m. at Higgins & Spencer Furniture Co. on Talbot St. in St. Michaels. For further information, contact Liz Lawlor at 410-745-6390 or Fred Snyder at 410-745-5563.

Saturday, November 25

FIELD TRIP. Howard. Howard County Waterfowl. Meet at the Centennial Park concession stand at 8:00 a.m. Will carpool to other ponds and lakes to search for ducks, mergansers and grebes. For further information, contact the leader, Jane Farrell, at 410-381-7344.

Sunday, November 26

FIELD TRIP. Howard. Centennial Park Sunday Walk. Co-Sponsored with Howard County Rec and Parks. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the west end lot to walk around the lake. Many different birds - ducks, gulls and woodland species. For further information, contact Bonnie Ott at 410-461-3361.

FIELD TRIP. Talbot. Sunday morning walk led by Jan Reese. Meet at 7:00 a.m. at Higgins & Spencer Furniture Co. on Talbot St. in St. Michaels. For further information, contact Liz Lawlor at 410-745-6390 or Fred Snyder at 410-745-5563.

Monday, November 27

MEETING. Wicomico. "Birding Costa Rica" by Robert Ringler. Meet at 7:30 p.m. at the Asbury United Methodist Church, Salisbury.

Tuesday, November 28

MEETING. Patuxent. "Birds in South America" by Robert Ringler. Meet 7:45 p.m. at Bio Science Building, Beltsville Agricultural Research Center.

MEETING. Washington. "The Great Desert Basin National Park" by Dr. Bob Trevor. 7:30 p.m. at the Mt. Aetna Nature Center, Hagerstown. For further information, contact Dave Weesner at 301-432-7718.

Friday, December 1

MEETING. Anne Arundel. "Birds of the Bahamas" by Tony White. 8:00 p.m. at The Media Center, Annapolis Senior High School, 2700 Riva Road, Annapolis.

Saturday, December 2

FIELD TRIP. Anne Arundel. Sandy Point State Park. Traditional trip for winter birds. Half day. Meet at 7:30 a.m. at Busch's Chesapeake Inn parking lot on the south side of Rt. 50 about 3 miles west of the Bay Bridge on Busch's Frontage Road. For further information, contact the leader, Hal Wierenga, at 410-647-7439.

FIELD TRIP. Anne Arundel. Patuxent NWR, PG County. Birding and a visit to the new visitor's center. Half day. Meet 7:30 a.m. at the Parole Plaza parking lot, on the Riva Road side next to the cemetery. For further information, contact the leader, Sally Rowe, at 410-647-4519.

FIELD TRIP. Carroll. Eagles at Conowingo Dam. See Bald Eagles and wintering gulls at Conowingo Dam. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at Owings Mills Park & Ride off I-795 (south lot near Painters Mill Road). Bring a lunch. For more information, contact Bob Ringler at 410-549-6031.

FIELD TRIP. Harford. Cape Henlopen. Good location for Snowy Owl, Snow Bunting, Ipswich Sparrow, and sea ducks. Bring lunch and warm, comfortable clothing. Meet at 6:30 a.m. at the Park & Ride at I-95 and MD 155 (Havre de Grace exit). For further information, contact the leader, Dave Ziolkowski, at 410-679-6765.

FIELD TRIP. Montgomery. Piney Run Park and Lake, Carroll County. Meet at 8:00 a.m. Bring lunch and scope. For further information and reservations, contact the leader, Bill Kulp at 301-593-4617.

Sunday, December 3

FIELD TRIP. Montgomery. Lilypons,/Oland Road. Winter field birds, including Snow Buntings and wintering sparrows. Loggerhead Shrike and Lapland Longspurs possible. 1/2 day. Post-trip stop at Black Hill Reservoir, if interest and weather warrant. Reservations necessary. For further information and reservations, contact the leader, Gail MacKiernan at 301-989-1828.

Tuesday, December 5

MEETING. Baltimore. "Show & Tell." Mini-slide shows and a Birds T-shirt contest by members and friends of the Baltimore Bird Club. 7:30 p.m. at Cylburn Mansion.

Saturday, December 9

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Southern Maryland. All-day trip to Point Lookout and other locations in search of waterfowl such as scoters, Oldsquaw, and Great Cormorants. Bald Eagles, Brown-headed Nuthatches, and Gannets possible. Birding near cars with minimal walking. Telescopes useful. Bring Lunch. Trip may not go if weather judged unfavorable. For further information, contact the leader, Steve Sanford, at 410-922-5103.

Sunday, December 10

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Loch Raven. Two-mile level walk for sparrows, ducks, and other winter residents. Telescopes useful. Meet 8:30 a.m. at Timonium Park & Ride lot. For further information, contact the leader, Steve Simon, at 410-628-1929.

Tuesday, December 12

MEETING. Kent. "The New River Stewardship: Community, Ecology and Economy" by Marsha Fritz and Pat Nielson of the Chester River Association. . 7:30 p.m. at the Kent County Library in Chestertown. For further information, contact Clara Ann Simmons at 410-778-2483.

Wednesday, December 13

MEETING. Carroll. "Sora Rail Research" by Greg Kearns of the Jug Bay Natural Area. 7:30 p.m. at Carroll Community College. For further information, contact Dave Hudgins at 410-374-5764.

Thursday, December 14

MEETING. Howard. "Black Skimmers: Strikers in the Night" by David Brinker of MD DNR.. 8:00 p.m. at Longfellow Elementary School, Columbia. For further information, contact Dave Harvey at 410-795-3117.

MEETING. Montgomery. Judy Fieth and Mike Male will present the film Warbler Watching. 8:00 p.m. at the Potomac Presbyterian Church, 10301 River Road, Potomac, MD. For further information, contact Lou DeMouy at 301-656-3146.

Saturday, December 16

FIELD TRIP. Harford. Loch Raven Reservoir. Morning trip for grebes, waterfowl, winter sparrows, and Pileated Woodpecker. Meet at 7:30 a.m. at Youth Benefit Elementary School, on MD 152, 1/2-mile

southeast of Pleasantville Road. For further information, contact the leader, Randy Robertson, at 410-273-9029.

Thursday, December 21

CHRISTMAS PARTY. Jug Bay. Bring a dish to share and a few of your favorite slides to show. 6:00 p.m. at the two story house at Patuxent River Park. For further information, call Jean Tierney at 301-627-6074.

Saturday-Monday, December 30-January 1

FIELD TRIP. Carroll. New Years at the Beach. Waterfowl and other wintering birds will be abundant on the Eastern Shore over the holiday. Limited accommodations available. For further information, contact the leader, Bob Ringler, at 410-549-6031.

Friday, January 5

MEETING. Anne Arundel. "Conservation Issues in Brazilian Rainforest" by Rich Dolesh. 8:00 p.m. at The Media Center, Annapolis Senior High School, 2700 Riva Road, Annapolis.

Saturday, January 6

FIELD TRIP. Harford. Conowingo Gull Watch. Possible species include Lesser Black-backed, Glaucous, and Common Black-headed Gulls, along with numerous Bald Eagles. Meet at the Fisherman's Park observation platform anytime between 8:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.. For further information, contact the leader, Dave Webb, at 410-569-0107.

FIELD TRIP. Montgomery. Waterfowl Quest. Search of local reservoirs and rivers for wintering ducks, geese and gulls. 1/2 day. Final locations will depend on weather. For further information, contact the leader, Paul Pisano at 703-685-3790.

Sunday, January 7

MEETING. Baltimore. Covered Dish Supper. 5:30 p.m. at Cylburn Mansion. Lecture follows - "From the Puna to the Chaco in Northwest Argentina" by Hank Kaestner. Register by Thursday, Jan 4 with Mary Byers at 410-686-7294.

Thursday, January 11

MEETING. Howard. "Breeding Bird Atlas Findings: Surprises and Confirmations" by Kathy Klimkiewicz of the Patuxent Research Center. 8:00 p.m. at Longfellow Elementary School, Columbia. For further information, contact Dave Harvey at 410-795-3117.

MEETING. Montgomery. "Sora Rail Research at Jug Bay" by Greg Kearns. 8:00 p.m. at the Potomac Presbyterian Church, 10301 River Road, Potomac, MD. For further information, contact Lou DeMouy at 301-656-3146.

Friday-Monday, January 12-15

FIELD TRIP. Montgomery. North Carolina Outer Banks. Loons, gannets, wintering ducks and shorebirds, alcids and less common gulls possible. Reservations required. For further information and motel reservations, contact the leader, Frank Witebsky at 301-871-7990.

Friday, January 12

MEETING. Harford. Program TBA. 7:00 p.m. at Churchville Presbyterian Church, MD 22 & MD 136. For further information, call 410-692-5978.

Saturday, January 13

FIELD TRIP. Anne Arundel. McKee Beshers WMA. Possible Long-Eared and Saw-Whet Owls. Meet at 7:30 a.m. at Busch's Chesapeake Inn parking lot on the south side of Rt. 50 about 3 miles west of the Bay Bridge on Busch's Frontage Road. For further information, contact Peter Hanan at 410-721-2658.

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Lancaster County, PA. All-day trip to Pennsylvania in search of Horned Larks, Rough-legged Hawks, and rarities. 8 a.m. For further information, contact the leader, Steve Sanford, at 410-922-5103.

FIELD TRIP. Harford. Feeder Tour. Morning tour of three homes in Harford County for feeder watcher and socializing. Space limited. For further information and reservations, call Joan McIntosh at 410-734-6517 by Wednesday, January 10. Make-up date is Saturday, January 20.

Thursday, January 18

MEETING. Jug Bay. "Galapagos" by Greg Kearns. 7:00 p.m. at the two story house at Patuxent River Park. For further information, call 301-627-6074.

Saturday, January 20

FIELD TRIP. Anne Arundel. Conowingo Dam. Gulls, waterfowl, and winter birds. Meet at 7:30 a.m. at Busch's Chesapeake Inn parking lot on the south side of Rt. 50 about 3 miles west of the Bay Bridge on Busch's Frontage Road. For further information, contact the leader, Sue Ricciardi, at 410-647-9513.

FIELD TRIP. Anne Arundel. Mystery Winter Trip. Time and destination to be announced. For further information, contact the leader, Kathie Lambert, at 410-867-4056.

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Conowingo Dam and Cecil County. Thousands of gulls, possibly some rarities, as well as waterfowl, raptors and eagles. Wear warm clothing and boots. Telescopes useful. Meet at 7:30 a.m. at the White Marsh Mall at light pole 16 on NE side of Sears. For further information, contact the leader, Gene Scarpulla, at 410-821-0575.

FIELD TRIP. Montgomery. Great Gull Trek. Lesser Black-backed Gulls likely; Iceland, Glaucous and Yellow-legged possible. All levels welcome - gull I.D. coaching available for the gull-shy. Meet in parking lot adjacent to Haines Point miniature golf course on Ohio Drive at 1:00 p.m. Bring scope. Reservations required. For further information and reservations, contact the leader, Howard Elitzak at 703-528-3848.

FIELD TRIP. Washington. Winter field trip to wherever the birds are. Meet at 9:00 a.m. at the Park & Ride located at I-70 and MD 65 near the MVA. For further information, contact the leader, Bob Keedy, at 301-733-7708.

Sunday, January 21

FIELD TRIP. Harford. Baltimore Harbor. Afternoon trip in search of bay ducks, Black-crowned Night-Heron, and Short-eared Owl. Meet at 2:00 p.m. at the Park & Ride at I-95 and MD 152 (Joppatowne exit). For further information, contact the leader, Mark Johnson, at 410-692-5978.

Monday, January 22

MEETING. Wicomico. "The Use of Native Plant Materials in Cultural Landscapes" by Ilya Fleishman. Meet at 7:30 p.m. at the Asbury United Methodist Church, Salisbury.

Tuesday, January 23

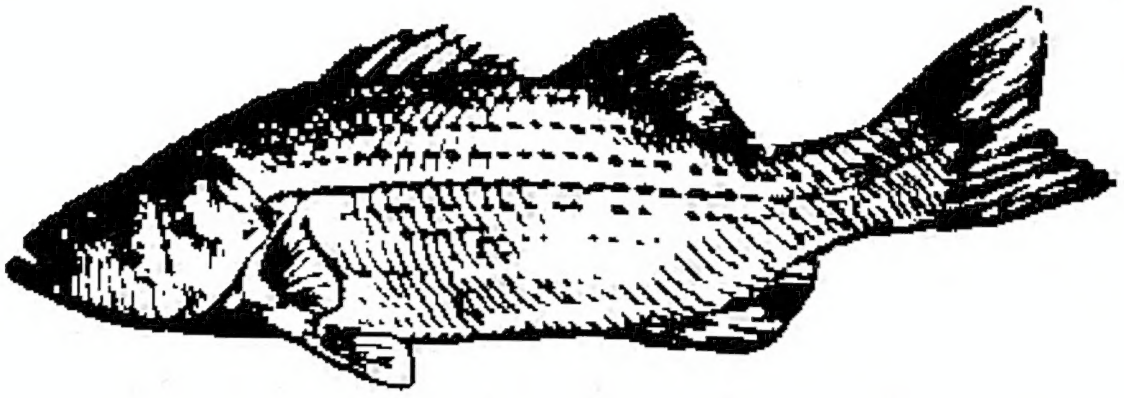
MEETING. Patuxent. Program TBA. Meet 7:45 p.m. at Bio Science Building, Beltsville Agricultural Research Center.

MEETING. Washington. Pot luck dinner and bring your won slides. 6:00 p.m. at the Mt. Aetna Nature Center, Hagerstown. For further information, contact Dave Weesner at 301-432-7718.

Saturday, January 27

Gull Day All-day extravaganza for gull fanatics censusing gulls at landfills and other hot spots throughout the region. If you feel competent and interested or would simply like to accompany an expert, contact Gene Scarpulla at 410-821-0575

FIELD TRIP. Kent. Feeder Watch at the home of Stan & Pat Wilson, 9:00 a.m. For further information, contact Clara Ann Simmons at 410-778-2483.



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The copy deadline for the January/February issue of the Yellowthroat isNovember 25 for chapter activities and December 1 for all other submissions.

Send calendar entries for January-March to:
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Please send all other submissions to the editor:
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